

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article 34

By Mrs Lena Hjelm-Wallén and Mr Sven-Olof Petersson, government representatives and Mr Sören Lekberg, Mr Kenneth Kvist and Mr Ingvar Svensson, national parliament representatives.

Status :
- **Member: Hjelm-Wallén and Lekberg**
- **Alternate: Petersson, Kvist and Svensson**

Article 34: The principle of participatory democracy

1. Every citizen shall have the right to participate in the democratic life of the Union. **The principle of participatory democracy shall be respected at Union, state, regional and local level.**
2. The Union institutions shall, by appropriate means, give citizens ~~and representative associations~~¹ the opportunity to make known and publicly exchange their opinions on all areas of Union action.
3. The Union institutions shall **promote and**² maintain an open, transparent and regular dialogue with ~~representative~~³ associations and civil society. **In particular, the Commission shall when preparing legislative initiatives undertake extensive consultations with interested parties to secure democracy, proportionality, consistency and transparency.**⁴

¹ The active participation in the participatory democracy should focus on the citizens. The rights and importance of organisations are covered by article 34.3.

² To underline the importance and ambitious undertaking in this article.

³ An unnecessary specification. All associations are by definition representative for their members

⁴ This general principle of consultation with interested parties should be codified in this Article or under a Title dealing with the Institutions.